

TREASURER'S NOTICE

It is with regret that I have to report that the *Record* has been running at a loss for much of this year, and that a rise in subscriptions will be necessary as from the beginning of Volume 95 (1983). In the coming year, we can expect printing costs to rise at least in accordance with the rate of inflation, and there is also the possibility of increased postal charges. To make matters worse, the decline in interest rates will reduce the income from our deposit account. It has therefore been decided that the subscription rates for next year will be £10.00 (U.K.) and £11.50 (Overseas): the increased differential is due partly to postage and partly to the high cost of clearing foreign cheques. If you pay by Standing Order, please be sure to provide your bank with the new details well before payment will be made.

In order to minimise costs, I make two requests. First, please pay on or before January 1st — the printers are normally paid before the journal is despatched, so the money is needed at the beginning of the month. Unfortunately, we shall not be sending out any copies of the journal for which payment has not been received. Second, if you decide not to renew your subscription, please let me know in good time, as this saves the expense of sending out reminders.

P. J. JOHNSON, Hon. Treasurer.

Notes and Observations

FLIGHT TIME OF RINGLET: APHANTOPUS HYPERANTUS L. IN SCOTLAND. — Over the last five years butterfly numbers have been assessed at two NNR's in east Fife, Scotland using the method described by Pollard (1977). Records were obtained for Tentsmuir Point from 1978 onwards and Morton Lochs from 1979 onwards. These show interesting differences in the flying time of Ringlet between the two sites.

Year	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
<i>Morton Lochs:</i>					
Annual population index		527	701	609	899
Flight time (weeks)		9	9	9	10
<i>Tentsmuir Point:</i>					
Annual population index	4	49	174	184	572
Flight time (weeks)	4	6	7	7	8

Table 1. Observed flight time (in weeks) in relation population size at Morton Lochs and Tentsmuir Point, Fife.

At Morton Lochs the Ringlet has emerged between 18th and 28th June during the last five years. First emergence is about a week and a half later at Tentsmuir Point. Table 1. shows that although the annual population index obtained from the transect results has varied at Morton the flying period has varied little. In contrast at Tentsmuir where the local population was believed to be severely reduced by drought in 1976, the flight period has extended as the total number in the population has risen. The ten week flying time observed at Morton this year probably represents the maximum for Scotland since east Fife enjoys the highest recorded sunshine in the country. The emergence times reported here are within the range given by Thomson (1980). The flight period given by him, however, is only about one month. The above results suggest that the observed flight period is directly proportional to population size. — References: Thomson, G. 1980. *The Butterflies of Scotland*, Croom Helm, London.

Pollard, E. 1977. A method for assessing changes in the abundance of butterflies. *Biol. Cons.* 12, 115-134. — P. K. KINNEAR, 11 Hillview Road, Balmullo, St Andrews, Fife KY16 ODE

AN ITALIAN BUTTERFLY POSTER. — I have just returned from a visit to Italy (alas not a collecting trip), and I was amused to see in Cremona a poster with some white butterflies of uncertain genus and writing "A clean city brings butterflies", which seemed to me a *non sequitur*! — Canon PETER HAWKER, St. Botolph's Vicarage, 84 Little Bargegate Street, Lincoln LN5 8JL, 26.viii.82.

THE CONVULVULUS HAWKMOTH AND CLOUDED YELLOW IN SOUTH DEVON. — On August 31 a large female *Agrius convulvuli* L. was found in my m.v. trap here following a cold moonlight night. And at Slapton Sands, two *Colias croceus* Geof. were seen on August 12 and one on August 19. — H. L. O'HEFFERNAN, 24 Green Park Way, Chillington, Kingsbridge, S. Devon.

THE CLOUDED YELLOW: *COLIAS CROCEUS* GEOF., AUTUMN 1982. — Whilst walking along Carlyon Bay, Cornwall (SX 060522) on the morning of 10th September 1982 in dull weather conditions a *C. croceus* flew up in front of me, it settled about 30yds. away which enabled me to confirm the identification. — A. J. BALDWIN, 33 Defoe Avenue, Kew Gardens, Surrey.

RHYACIA SIMULANS HUFNAGEL: DOTTED RUSTIC IN LINCOLNSHIRE. — Back in July 1980 I took a specimen of this species in my Robinson trap at home. This was the first record for the county of this central and southern moth. This year I have taken a total of five examples in and around Lincoln, which suggests that the species is established. Only one of these was at light. The others were found by day, actively fluttering in vegetation. The first was taken on 26th June and the last on 29th July. It would be interesting to hear more of the spread of this insect, which seems to be undergoing a population explosion, judging by other accounts in the *Record*. — M. TOWNSEND, 8 Cornwall House, Ravendale Drive, Lincoln, 22.ix.82.